

Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINR, CA

SUBJ: COMPARISON OF TRUDEAU AND LEVESQUE

1. IN A PRIVATE DINNER CONVERSATION, LAURENT PICARD (A LIBERAL "INSIDER" WHO IS THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF CBC AND NOW PRESIDENT OF MARINE INDUSTRIES) DESCRIBED PIERRE ELLIOT TRUDEAU AND RENE LEVESQUE (EACH OF WHOM IS A VERY OLD FRIEND) IN THESE TERMS: "THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE HEAD AND THE GUTS OF PIERRE BUT IN RENE THE CONNECTION IS VERY REAL AND VERY IMPORTANT. IF PIERRE HAS TO MAKE A DECISION, IT WILL BE MADE BY HIS HEAD; HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW THE GUT IS INVOLVED. IF RENE HAS TO MAKE A DECISION, IT WILL BE MADE BY THE GUT RATHER THAN HIS HEAD, BECAUSE, ALTHOUGH HE IS VERY BRIGHT HE IS ALSO VERY COMPASSIONATE, INDEED MORE COMPASSIONATE THAN INTELLECTUAL, AND THAT WILL RULE."

2. HE WENT ON TO SUGGEST THAT THE QUESTION OF INDEPENDENCE MAY NEVER ARISE BECAUSE THERE MAY NEVER BE A REFERENDUM -- BUT THAT THIS COULD BREAK UP THE PARTY AS THE RADICAL ELEMENT GETS MORE RESTIVE.
HARPER

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